

REMARKS

The Examiner has cited publication number U.S. 2002/0032626A1 as prior art to the current application. Although on the face of the published document it does not appear that the utility application should have the benefit of the filing date of the provisional application due to late filing, for purposes of this response Applicant is assuming that the priority claim is correct. Since Applicant is not in a position to evaluate the file wrapper of the published case, Applicant hereby requests that the Examiner explain why the stated filing date is not correct.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 21 was objected to because of an informality. That claim has been amended to overcome that objection. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 10, 13, 14, 18, and 25 were rejected under the 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. The independent claims have been amended to overcome the rejections and the dependent claims should now be allowable. Claims, 1, 2, 4-7, 10, 13-15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of DeWolfe et al. and Brown. DeWolfe teaches a data repository where information regarding a structure and its contents may be stored. DeWolfe does not explicitly disclose an electronic model that accurately depicts structure with integrated electronic links as recited in claim 1.

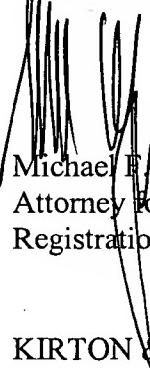
The Brown reference teaches a method for compiling information regarding real estate. For example, Claim 4 recites that a floor plan image of at least a portion of the house can be compiled with other data in a computer-readable data base. Similarly, textual information for each house, at least one exterior image for each house, and at least one interior image for each house are all compiled into a common data base format. Access to this compiled information is achieved through a number of icon buttons 101 to control the addition and deletion of new records into the data base and to select which record is to be displayed for either viewing or

editing. Different images can be displayed by pushing these icon buttons located on the screen. Brown does not teach, however, a graphical user interface accurately portraying dimensions and features of a structure and personal property from the location of personal property in the structure to allow a user to indicate a location on the electronic model of the structure depicted on the graphical user interface and to link to the corresponding data.

As a result, neither Brown nor DeWolfe separately or in combination teach the claimed invention. Applicant therefore respectfully suggests that these claims are not allowable. Should there be any further impediment to the prompt allowance of this application; the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned for a telephonic interview.

DATED this 15 day of January, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,


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AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Small Entity)

Applicant(s): James B. Loveland

Docket No.

7927.132

Serial No.
09/750,380Filing Date
December 28, 2000JAN 20 2004
Examiner
Susanna M. DiazGroup Art Unit
1654

Invention: VIRTUAL HOME DATA REPOSITORY AND DIRECTORY

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- Small Entity status of this application has been established under 37 CFR 1.27 by a verified statement previously submitted.
- A verified statement to establish Small Entity status under 37 FR 1.27 is enclosed.

The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	-	32 =	0	x \$9.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	-	3 =	0	x \$39.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>				\$0.00
				TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT	\$0.00

- No additional fee is required for amendment.
- Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____
- A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500843
- Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
- Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

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JAN 23 2004

GROUP 3600

Dated: Jan. 15, 2004

Signature

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I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on Jan. 15, 2004 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Michael F. Krieger

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

cc: Customer Number 21999